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15 July 1955

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Penetration of ZIPPER by the East German Security Service (Stasi)

1. Reference is made to the EE memorandum, subject as above, dated 14 July 1955.
2. According to an additional report the total number of persons arrested is now fifteen. Of this number nine have made either full or partial confessions. Ludwig WILHELM, one of the ZIPPER members involved, committed suicide while in confinement without having confessed. Also among the remaining five who have not confessed is the other ZIPPER member Ludwig WILHELM.
3. Also among those denying the charge is one Felix VIECH whose wife Ruth WIRTH nee SCHWARZ was employed as a translator in the U. S. Army intelligence school at Oberammergau, Germany. Information as to the specific time of this employment is not available. No further details have been received concerning the other alleged penetrations of U. S. Army installations listed in paragraph 4 of the above-mentioned memorandum.

Deputy Chief of Operations
Eastern European Division

EE/G/Z []
15 July 1955
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